



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Deadline to Advise County on Fire Debris Cleanup Announced

Owners of property damaged or destroyed by the October 2007 wildfires in the mountains that have not advised the County on property cleanup have until March 10, 2008 to do so. Officials with the County Fire Debris Removal program said today that final notice letters are being sent to the remaining 116 property owners that haven't committed to property cleanup. Currently owners of 413 properties have advised the County of their property cleanup status.

Property owners that miss this deadline risk Code Enforcement action being used to get their property cleaned up. Cleanup of properties through Code Enforcement action will result in the full cost of cleanup and administrative fees being borne by the property owner. Federal, State and Local Assistance funding can not be used to assist property owners with cost of cleanup if the property is cleaned up under a Code Enforcement action. This cost is estimated to be in excess of \$30,000 per property.

Until the deadline, property owners can choose to use the County sponsored Fire Debris Removal Program which offers a comprehensive cleanup solution with no out-of-pocket cost. This program financially assists property owners with the cost of cleanup by combining Federal, State and Local government assistance funding and supplementing that funding with the owner's property insurance debris cleanup proceeds.

To update debris removal status, get debris removal information or to enroll in the Debris Removal Program; property owners should call the Debris Removal Center, at 909-867-7579. Owners can also go to the Debris Center located at 2677 Whispering Pines Drive; Running Springs open 10am-4pm weekdays and 10am-3pm on Saturdays. They may also call the County Solid Waste Management Division at 909-386-8701.

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